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SUMMARY OF ATTACHED BRIEF

1. Brief presented by - Leslie A. Tufts,
Christian Science Committee on
Publication for Ontario
2. Reference to objectives of Enquiry.
3. Reference to introduced legislation and prospective recommendations by Enquiry.
4. Contributions to a program of health insurance which provides only medical benefits - discriminatory.
5. Individual right to rely upon prayer and spiritual means for the prevention and healing of human ailments.
6. (a) Exemption requested for all compulsory participation.
(b) Alternative - cash option.
(c) If plan is underwritten by private insurance companies, payments to Christian Science practitioners, and for Christian Science nursing care and subsistence while under Christian Science treatment in a Christian Science Sanatorium, nursing home, or in his own home, to be authorized.
(d) No payment requested in any plan administered entirely by Government for services of a Christian Science practitioner and reasons therefor.
(e) Payment requested in any plan administered entirely by Government for Christian Science nursing care, and subsistence in a Christian Science Sanatorium, nursing home, or in the individual's own home, while under Christian Science treatment.
7. Include term "other remedial care" in addition to authorized medical care, in any health insurance legislation.
8. Reliance by Christian Scientists wholly on spiritual means for healing.
9. Efficacy of healing by prayer in Christian Science tested before public for some 90 years.
10. Status of Christian Science practitioners.
11. Christian Science Sanitoriums.

12. Christian Science treatment and care a safe and therapeutic system. Protected by law.
 13. Freedom of individual to employ the practitioner, or mode of treatment of his choice.
 14. Recognition of Christian Science healing would establish no precedent.
 15. Recognition of Christian Science healing by insurance companies.
 16. Christian Scientists strictly observe reporting of suspected cases of infectious diseases; compliance with isolation and quarantine regulations; observance of all laws applying to welfare of minors.
 17. Requested inclusion in any health insurance legislation of term "other remedial care", plus a general provision with wording as given.
 18. Appendix.
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120 Bloor Street West
Toronto 5, Ontario
November 12, 1963

STATEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH
BEFORE
MEDICAL SERVICES INSURANCE ENQUIRY
1963-1964

Dr. J. Gerald Hagey
Chairman, Medical Services Insurance Enquiry
and Members thereof

Dr. Hagey and Enquiry Members:

My position is that of Christian Science Committee on Publication for Ontario, and my name is Leslie A. Tufts. As spokesman for the Christian Scientists of Ontario in legislative matters, I should like to present a brief statement on behalf of the Church of Christ, Scientist, regarding the question of health services now pending before your Enquiry. My appearance before you has been authorized by The Christian Science Board of Directors, the administrative head of the Christian Science denomination.

We understand that the objectives of your Enquiry appointed by the Government of Ontario, are:

"1. Having regard to the maintenance of the physical and material well-being of the people of Ontario, and the social, economic and health benefits to be achieved through the establishment and operation of a feasible medical services insurance programme, shall...

Examine and enquire into, hold meetings for the study and discussion of, receive representations in connection with matters related to, and consonant with, the basic principles, purposes, and objectives of Bill 163 of the 1962-63 session of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario respecting Medical Services Insurance.

2. After due study and consideration, to make recommendations and report upon matters enquired into under the terms set out herein as the commissioners see fit to the Prime Minister and Executive Council of Ontario."
(Public Announcement, published September 28, 1963).

In anticipation of these prospective recommendations and their possible effect on the Christian Scientists of Ontario through the consideration of introduced legislation, this brief is respectfully submitted.

Any program of health insurance which requires all individuals to contribute to a fund for health insurance which provides only medical benefits discriminates against those individuals who, for religious reasons, rely on prayer or spiritual means alone for healing. We feel that the fundamental principle of freedom of choice will be denied unless consideration is given to this question. One of the basic points of our Canadian Bill of Rights is the freedom to worship God according to the dictates of individual conscience - to rely upon God for aid and succor under all circumstances - equality and protection before the law.

We, therefore, request on behalf of all residents of the province of Ontario who are members or adherents of a Christian Science church, that their individual right as Canadian citizens to rely upon prayer and spiritual means alone for the prevention and healing of human ailments, be respected and preserved in conformity with the democratic ideals long established by our Constitution. Christian Scientists feel that their method of healing sickness by prayer, which is an inseparable part of their religion, is a constitutional right which should be respected and protected by our laws.

For these reasons, we request exemption, if possible, from all compulsory participation in any government-sponsored health plan which

provides only medical benefits. If exemption is found to be impossible, or impracticable, perhaps a plan embodying cash option or some form of recognition of our method of healing can be authorized. We believe that, should a program underwritten by private insurance companies be adopted, a Christian Scientist should be entitled to receive payment for Christian Science treatment by a Christian Science practitioner, and for Christian Science nursing care and subsistence in a Christian Science sanatorium, nursing home, or in his own home, while under Christian Science treatment. However, we do not favor seeking payment for the services of a Christian Science practitioner in any program which is administered entirely by the government, since we would not want to have our practitioners placed under government regulation, supervision, or control. Under such a government-administered and supported program, we would seek payment only for Christian Science nursing care and subsistence in a Christian Science sanatorium, nursing home, or in the individual's own home, while under Christian Science treatment.

Therefore, we respectfully request that in any health insurance legislation the term "other remedial care" be included in addition to authorized medical care. In using the term "other remedial care" it would need to be understood that it is designed to include nursing care for those relying on Christian Science care and treatment. It would also be expected that subsistence allowance, where it is made available to those depending upon medical care, would also be made available to those relying upon "other remedial care." The phrase

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"other remedial care" is recommended because it would permit the authorization of Christian Science treatment and care without being subject to attack as class legislation, as might be the case should the phrase "Christian Science care" be used.

Perhaps it would be helpful if I give you a brief explanation of our method of healing. Christian Scientists, because of their religious teaching and faith, do not employ medical treatment and care. They rely wholly on spiritual means for healing, as did Christ Jesus. They respect sincerely the unselfish effort of doctors, surgeons, psychiatrists, and others. They respect the rights of each individual to choose that mode of health care which seems to him most efficacious. When confronted with sickness or disability, a Christian Scientist turns to a Christian Science practitioner for help through prayer instead of to a doctor; when in need of hospital care, a Christian Scientist prefers to go to a Christian Science sanatorium, whenever possible, rather than to a medical hospital.

Healing by prayer as understood in Christian Science has now been tested before the public for some 90 years. During this time a great body of evidence as to its efficacy in healing every sort of disease, has been established. The weekly and monthly publications of The Christian Science Publishing Society always contain a number of unsolicited, carefully verified testimonies of healing from Christian Scientists and others. These include numerous healings of organic as well as functional disease, of malignancies, pronounced fatal by competent medical authorities, as well as of obviously neurosthenic disorders. Many of the cases have long medical histories behind them;

in many instances the expert diagnosis made before the patient turned to Christian Science for healing, had been supported by x-ray examinations, laboratory tests, and so forth. Not infrequently doctors who have observed these healings have stated frankly that only God could have wrought them.

In The Christian Science Journal, the official organ of the Christian Science denomination, is found a list of approximately 8,000 Christian Science practitioners who have met the requirements of the Church for engaging in the full-time practice of Christian Science healing. The Journal also includes a list of carefully trained Christian Science nurses who are available to give the special care that may be necessary during a severe illness or incapacity. They do not, of course, give any medication.

Two sanatoriums are maintained by the Church where such nursing care is available to those needing it during the course of Christian Science healing. The Church also approves various privately operated sanatoriums which meet the necessary standard for providing such care for those under Christian Science treatment. One of these privately-run sanatoriums is located in Victoria, British Columbia. Another one is in the process of being established in Ontario. In addition, there are numerous nursing and convalescent homes operated privately by and for Christian Scientists.

Christian Science treatment and care is known to be a safe and effective therapeutic system, so much so that Christian Science practice is protected by law in every province in Canada and every State in the United States. For example, when the United States Congress

enacted the Social Security Amendments of 1960, Public Law 86-778 (the Kerr-Mills Act), a provision was included authorizing "any other medical care or remedial care recognized under State law." Senate Report No. 1856, 86th Congress, page 7, interprets this phrase as follows:

"Accordingly, a State may, if it wishes, include medical services provided by osteopaths, chiropractors, and optometrists and remedial services provided by Christian Science practitioners."

We strongly feel that all persons entitled to benefits from any government-sponsored health insurance program which may be adopted should be free to employ the practitioner or mode of treatment of their choice. It should be axiomatic that a democratic government has no more right to set up any one branch of the healing art, and require its citizens to conform to it, than it has to stipulate the particular religious doctrine to which its citizens should subscribe. Christian Scientists, from their sincerest and highest motives, and with every desire to be obedient to the laws of the land, yearn to be loyal to conscience and to the form of religion they are professing to follow, their only desire being to protect their method of healing and to preserve their freedom to depend upon it under all circumstances.

As previously indicated, recognition of our method of healing would establish no precedent. The United States Civil Service Commission's Government-wide Indemnity Benefit Plan for federal employees provides that any participant may elect to receive Christian Science benefits in lieu of medical benefits, thus preserving the right of Christian Scientists to participate in the Plan without having to

compromise their religious rights and convictions. *Name them!*

In addition many insurance companies today recognize Christian Science in their various health and accident policies, as well as in liability and casualty policies. For example, the new "Connecticut 65" health insurance plan for older citizens of Connecticut includes recognition of Christian Science. This plan underwritten by some of the leading insurance companies domiciled in Connecticut, is available to all citizens of that State over 65 years of age.

It might be appropriate to state that the religion of Christian Science demands of its followers the strictest observance of all laws pertaining to the prompt reporting to the public health authorities of suspected cases of infectious or contagious diseases, and compliance with all isolation and quarantine regulations, as well as the observance of all laws applying to the welfare of minors. Special informative instructions have been prepared in booklet form, under qualified legal supervision, and made available for the guidance of all Christian Scientists in these respects.

It is solely because of their religious significance and the dangers of unintentionally inflicting upon Christian Scientists undue restrictions which would restrict and discriminate against the free exercise of religion that these points have been presented.

From the standpoint of religious freedom, and in the interest of

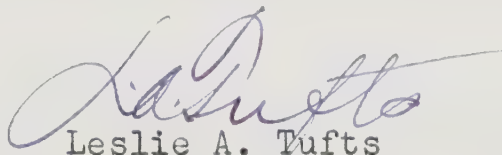
preserving that sacred right, the Christian Scientists of Ontario respectfully request that the term "other remedial care" and the following general provision be included in any health insurance legislation:

"Nothing in this Act shall be construed to require any person eligible for benefits hereunder who relies on or is treated by prayer or spiritual means alone by a duly accredited practitioner of a well recognized church or denomination in accordance with the tenets and practice of such church or denomination to undergo any medical or surgical treatment. Such person shall receive benefits as fully as if medical or surgical treatment were employed."

We feel that our request is reasonable, fair, and just. It is based on a sincere desire to cooperate with our government in the protection and welfare of the citizens of Ontario as a whole. We know that it is not the desire of your Enquiry or the government to interfere with religious rights, and we pray that careful consideration be given to our position.

Thank you for the opportunity and privilege of presenting our views on this important subject.

Respectfully submitted,



Leslie A. Tufts
Christian Science Committee on
Publication for Ontario

120 Bloor Street West
Toronto 5, Ontario
November - 1963

- A P P E N D I X -

B R I E F P R E S E N T E D T O
M E D I C A L S E R V I C E S I N S U R A N C E E N Q U I R Y

1. CHRISTIAN SCIENCE NURSING

Christian Science nursing is concerned with the physical care of patients during the course of healing in Christian Science. Christian Science healing by prayer or spiritual means alone is conducted by accredited Christian Science practitioners in accordance with the tenets and practice of the Church of Christ, Scientist. Non-medical Christian Science nursing is conducted by accredited Christian Science nurses in accordance with the same Christian Science teaching and practice.

Sanatoriums/and nursing homes where Christian Science nursing care is available are operated by and for Christian Scientists throughout the United States and Canada. In several of these institutions, two of them owned and operated by The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts, professional training courses in Christian Science nursing are given. Completion of the full course, which entitles one to certification as a Christian Science nurse, normally requires three years. The following subjects are included in the course of instruction: nursing ethics, obstetrical nursing, bandaging, preparation and supervision, serving and feeding patients, and reading to patients. Classroom teaching is applied practically through floor duty under the supervision of classroom instructors and floor supervisors.

Christian Scientists between the ages of 19 and 55 are eligible for the training program. A high school diploma or equivalent educational training is required and candidates should manifest good health.

We would like to emphasize that our nurses' training course is open only to members of our Church because Christian Science nursing is a part of our religious method of healing.

Christian Science healing and nursing care are recognized by law and by many of the leading insurance companies in the health insurance field.

Toronto Nursing Service for Christian Scientists Incorporated, became a legal entity in Ontario on October 13, 1949. It provides nursing service for Christian Scientists in Ontario including a visiting nurse service.

2. CHRISTIAN SCIENCE HEALING RECOGNIZED BY LAW IN ONTARIO

The following provision is to be found in The Drugless Practitioners Act, R.S.O. 1960, Chapter 114.

"Section 10(d). Nothing in this Act shall apply to or affect, (d) persons treating human ailments by prayer or spiritual means as an enjoyment or exercise of religious freedom."

Several Christian Science branch churches in Ontario are incorporated under Ontario law.

3. CERTIFICATE OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE PRACTITIONER

The person named below was under my professional care during the period from _____ to _____. His condition during this time was such that I considered it inadvisable for him to report for work.

Name _____

Address _____

Date _____

Signature of Christian Science Practitioner

4. INCOME TAX DEDUCTIONS FOR CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS

Christian Science ~~practitioners~~ and nurses in Canada are now recognized by the Income Tax Department on the same basis as medical doctors and nurses. A reference to Christian Science practitioners now appears on the Income Tax Guide and Information Sheet.

5. ITEM 2(f) OF GUIDE RE SUBMISSION OF BRIEF

The Church Manual of the Christian Science Church prohibits our reporting for publication the number of our members. In lieu of this information the current number of our churches in Ontario is 40, and the number of Christian Science practitioners is 71.

6. To substantiate that Christian Scientists obey the law of the land, and that they report suspected cases of infectious and contagious diseases, a copy of our booklet "Legal Rights and Obligations of Christian Scientists in Ontario" will be made available upon request.

Does not want

① Compulsion

② Any control of C.S. practitioners by
gov't.

Absent Treatment # 2-3

Personal # 4-5